



brown girl surf - History of Ocean Days

Launched 2014

Ocean Days was a collaborative program coordinated in 2014 by Mira Manickam-Shirley to offer affordable surf clinics for girls in San Francisco. The project began as a partnership with Mira, brown girl surf, Girls 2000 in Hunters Point, and [The Wahine Project](#), a non-profit organization centered on reshaping the landscape of equity in ocean recreation and stewardship.

Ocean Days empowered middle-school-age girls from San Francisco's Hunters Point neighborhood to develop their own relationships with the ocean through surfing. Ocean Days was integrated into a larger environmental education and social justice framework, and linked hands-on lessons in marine ecology and ocean stewardship to a land-based curriculum in sustainable urban agriculture. Under the fiscal sponsorship of The Wahine Project, Ocean Days empowered girls to reclaim the rich cultural history of women of color in the ocean.

In 2015, brown girl surf helped secure a \$40,000 grant for Ocean Days to expand its program reach to youth in Oakland, CA. The grant also helped to fund supportive services like equipment and supplemental events for a programmatic collaboration with Oakland Parks and Recreation.

Location:

Ocean Days was operated in San Francisco, Oakland and along California's Pacific coastline, a region contending with sea level rise, erosion, pollution and wildfires. Oakland is particularly vulnerable to groundwater rise and high exposure to pollution.

Program Coordinator:

Mira Manickam-Shirley

Program Sponsors:

The Wahine Project

Girls 2000, Hunters Point

brown girl surf

This document is part of the official historical archives of brown girl surf™. For current program information and updates, visit www.browngirlsurf.co | © 2025 brown girl surf. All rights reserved. | Document Type: Program History Last Updated: 1/8/25